

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are pending in this application, with no claims having been amended herein.

In the office action, claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,888,837 to Cunningham. The instant rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

The present invention, as recited in independent claim 1 recites a communication data relay system capable of executing packet communications having security ensured without the need for setting a complicated packet filter between the domains in a relay apparatus. Where the relay system is used for relaying communication data between a plurality of domains by an address translation.

To accomplish this, the relay apparatus as recited in independent claim 1 includes a domain definition module for defining the domain configured by one or more networks, and an inter-domain communication definition module for defining a communicability between the domains.

The relay system judges the communicability of a relay in accordance with definitions in the inter-domain communication definition module with respect to a relay between the domains which are different from each other. The definitions in the inter-domain communication definition module has records of the source domain→destination domain field(identification information of source and destination), an inter-domain communicability field and a translation rule (address translation mode) field. The relay system relays packets with security ensured between the domains by judging whether communication is permitted with respect to a relay between the domains in accordance with definitions in the inter-domain

communication definition module.

Further explanation for the features discussed above can be found in the specification at FIG 1 (three of domains), and page 16 line 15- page 18 line 9 of the specification, FIG 7 (inter-domain communication definition module), and page 21 lines 4-12 of the specification, FIG 4 (S4 ,S5 describing a process of judging whether communication is permitted or not with respect to a relay between the domains), and page 27 lines 8-20.

However, the relied upon portions of Cunningham teach only a transformation method by converting a local address into a global address. Further, Cunningham dose not disclose any of features corresponding to inter-domain communication definition module which is included in Claim 1 of the present application. Further it is submitted that Cunningham dose not teach the use of a "translation rule" as recited in claim 1.1.

Moreover, it is submitted that the relied upon portions of Cunningham do not teach or suggest judging "whether communication between the domains is permitted or not for the relay in accordance with said parameter associated with said inter-domain communication definition module in the case of a relay between the domains different from each other," as recited in independent claim 1.

Thus it is submitted that independent claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the relied upon portions of Cunningham and is allowable. Claims 2 and 3 depend from independent claim 1 and are allowable therewith.

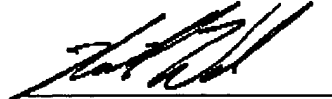
Conclusion

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully

requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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